



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

17 MAY 2017

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Los Angeles – Two Dozen MS-13 Gang Suspects Arrested in Early-Morning Sweep

(U) About two dozen accused members of the MS-13 gang were arrested before dawn Wednesday as federal and local investigators conducted an operation across Los Angeles County, the result of a two-year racketeering investigation. Authorities recently targeted 42 suspected members of the gang, including those arrested Wednesday; the remaining suspects were already in custody, officials said. MS-13's grip in parts of Los Angeles has weakened in recent years amid a crackdown by law enforcement. SOURCE: 17 May 2017, [Los Angeles Times](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – Homeland Security Renews Warning of Homegrown Terror Threats

(U) Washington – The Department of Homeland Security renewed a bulletin on 15 May, warning of the "most serious" environment for homegrown terror threats since 9/11. The bulletin—renewed three times since its original issue—warned of homegrown terror suspects' increasing reliance on technology to avoid detection, and specific attack tactics including the use of vehicle ramming, small arms, straight-edged blades or knives, homemade explosives, and hostage-taking. SOURCE: 17 May 2017, [Daily Mail](#)

(U) Massachusetts – Purported Gang Leader Charged with Approving Boston Killings

(U) Boston – Federal prosecutors on 15 May announced that El Salvadoran national Oscar "Demente" Duran, 25, has been charged in a superseding indictment of approving the killings of two Boston teenagers in September 2015 and January 2016. Prosecutors also alleged in court that Duran, who was living in East Boston, is the US leader of a clique associated with the MS-13 gang. Several other alleged gang members have been charged with carrying out the two killings. SOURCE: 16 May 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) Montana – Officer Fatalities Grow as Montana Deputy is Killed on Duty

(U) Missoula – The shooting death of sheriff's deputy Mason Moore after a vehicle pursuit yesterday brings the total number of US officers killed in the line of duty this year to 51—almost a 40 percent increase in officer fatalities since this time in 2016. Following the attack, the shooter's SUV was spotted again and officers deployed spike strips. The suspect, Marshall Barrus, 38, exited the SUV, fired at officers, and was shot in the head then taken to the hospital. As of yesterday, his condition is unclear. SOURCE: 16 May 2017, [Fox News](#)

(U) New York – Leading Neo-Nazi Website Expands Audience with Spanish-Language Edition

(U) New York City – The Daily Stormer—infamous for internet harassment by its "Troll Army" of readers—recently launched El Daily Stormer as a "news portal" tailoring its racist, anti-Semitic content for readers in Spain and Latin America. The new site includes unpaid articles, appeals for donations, and a public comment forum. About 40 percent of The Daily Stormer's 3.2 million unique monthly visitors are in the US; El Daily Stormer added nearly 10,000 since its inception, according to a writer for the site. SOURCE: 16 May 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Mexico – Mexicans Mourn Well-Known Journalist as Risks to Reporters Skyrocket

(U) Mexico City – Javier Valdez, 50, a prominent journalist who wrote about the illicit activities of drug cartels in the Pacific-coast state of Sinaloa, was shot 12 times in a daytime attack on 15 May, by what is presumed to be members of a criminal organization, according to media. His death came amid a wave of attacks against media professionals, who frequently self-censor to avoid attacks by criminal groups.

Valdez was the sixth Mexican journalist slain this year.

SOURCE: 16 May 2017, [Washington Post](#)

(U) Denmark – Danish Teenager Found Guilty of Terrorism, Sentence Pending

(U) Copenhagen – A 17 year-old Danish girl was convicted of attempted terrorism for planning bomb attacks against two schools, and for assaulting law enforcement while incarcerated. The presiding judge said the girl had converted to Islam and intended to carry out the attacks, and possessed chemicals to make the explosive known as TATP. It also appeared she had online contacts with radical militants. The court said the bombings were not carried out because she was arrested before she could take action.

SOURCE: 16 May 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) El Centro – Border Patrol Agents Impede Drive-Thru Attempt

(U) US Border Patrol agents seized a SUV loaded with drugs after it entered the US using metal ramps to drive over vehicle barricades on 14 May. The SUV initially fled back toward Mexico after agents located it using a remote video surveillance system, but returned after the Mexican military was informed of its location. One of the men who returned was apprehended by Border Patrol agents, and the vehicle was seized. Agents found 978 pounds of marijuana with a street value of \$391,540.

SOURCE: 16 May 2017, [KESQ News](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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